AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A power tool comprising:

a powered drive source;

a speed reduction mechanism portion for transmitting a rotational power of said powered drive source;

a striking mechanism portion for converting the rotational power of said speed reduction mechanism portion into a striking force;

an end tool for outputting the striking force ~~and a rotational force~~ through said striking mechanism portion; and

an impact damping mechanism for damping an impact on said speed reduction mechanism portion in a direction of rotation of said speed reduction mechanism portion.

Claim 2. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises

a projection, formed on a fixed gear of said speed reduction mechanism portion; and

an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed gear support jig mounted in a housing.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig, and

an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said

projection on said fixed gear is formed on a side surface or an outer surface of said fixed gear.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said impact damping member between said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said projection on said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig is formed on an outer surface of said fixed gear or said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said impact damping member between said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein the drive source comprises a motor.

Claim 9. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said projection on said fixed gear support jig, is formed on a side surface or an outer surface of said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said impact damping member between said fixed gear support jig and said housing is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 11. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said projection on said fixed gear and said projection on said fixed gear support jig are formed on a side surface of said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig, respectively.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said impact damping member between said fixed gear support jig and said housing is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) A tool, comprising:

a drive source;

a speed reduction ~~power transmitting~~ mechanism for transmitting a power of said drive source;

a striking mechanism for converting the power of said transmitting mechanism into a striking force; and

an impact damping mechanism for damping an impact of said speed reduction ~~power transmitting~~ mechanism in a direction of rotation of said speed reduction mechanism.

Claim 14. (Canceled).

Claim 15. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 13, wherein said striking mechanism converts the rotational power of said speed reduction mechanism into said striking force.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 15, wherein said impact damping mechanism dampens an impact in a direction of rotation of said speed reduction mechanism.

Claim 17. (Currently amended) The tool of claim 13, further comprising:

an end tool for outputting the striking force and a rotation force of said speed reduction ~~power transmitting~~ mechanism through said striking mechanism.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) The tool of claim 13, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises

a projection formed on a fixed gear of said speed reduction ~~power transmitting~~ mechanism; and

an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed support jig.

Claim 19. (Currently amended) The tool of claim 13, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises

a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig of said speed reduction ~~power~~

~~transmitting~~ mechanism, and

an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing of said tool.

Claim 20. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

~~a handheld~~ an impact tool, powered by a driving force, for imparting a rotational impact force to an end tool, said impact tool comprising an impact damping mechanism for damping said rotational impact force on a speed reduction mechanism in a direction of rotation of said speed reduction mechanism ~~said end tool~~.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said impact tool comprises ~~a speed reduction mechanism for transmitting a rotational power of said drive source, and~~ a striking mechanism for converting the power of said speed reduction ~~transmitting~~ mechanism into a striking force~~, and~~

~~wherein said impact damping mechanism dampens said striking force~~.

Claim 22. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises

a projection, formed on a fixed gear of said speed reduction mechanism, and

an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed gear support jig mounted in a housing of said impact tool.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said impact

damping mechanism comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig, and an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing.